

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

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AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNDP, EAID

SUBJ: UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL, 21ST SESSION: COMPLETION OF
PLENARY DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM 7, ASSISTANCE TO
COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES: UNDP POLICY IN ANGOLA

REFS: (A) USUN 234; (B) USUN 258

1. SUMMARY: IN PLENARY DEBATE MORNING JANUARY 26 ON THE
ABOVE SUBJECT US DELEGATION MADE CLEAR THAT US CONTINUES TO
FAVOR PROGRAM FREEZE ON UNDP ASSISTANCE IN ANGOLA. CHINA THEN
INITIATED POLEMICS WITH THE SOVIET DELEGATION BY CONTENDING
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THAT THE UNIFIED LIBERATION MOVEMENT WHICH IT SOUGHT WAS BEING

DISRPUTED BY THE SUPERPOWERS, AND PARTICULARLY BY THE SOCIALIST IMPERISLISM OF THE USSR. THE SOVIET DELEGATE RESPONDED AT SOME LENGTH ON THE THEME THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS SIMPLY DEFENDING THE NEWLY INDEPENDENT PEOPLE AND THEIR LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE FORCES OF IMPERIALSIM. THE CHINESE DELEGATE THEN ATTACKED SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN ANGOLA IN A LENGHIER STATEMENT, TAKING THE LINE THAT IT WAS ONLY SOVIET IMPERISLISM WHICH HAD PROVIDED "THE OTHER SUPERPOWER" THE OPPPORTUNITY TO INTERVENE.
END SUMMARY.

2. IT WILL BE REMEMBERED THAT THE UNPD RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE WAS WITHDRAWN FROM ANGOLA AND THE PROGRAM FROZEN IN JULY 1975. UNDP STILL ADHERES TO THE POSITION AGREED TO IN MAY 1975 THAT ANY NEW PROJECTS MUST BE APPROVED BY ALL THREE ANGOLAN LIBERATION FACTIONS, A SITUATION THAT HAS NOT APPLIED SINCE LAST SUMMER. OUR POSITION PAPER (UNEC D-10/76) FOR AGENDA ITEM 7 INDICATED THAT THE U.S. SHOULD SUPPORT CONTINUATION OF THIS POLICY.

3. AS REPORTED IN THE REFTELS, THE PLENARY DISCUSSION ON JANUARY 23 HAD INVOLVED SOME MENTION OF THE ANGOLA ISSUE, PARTICULAR BY THE USSR. DISCUSSION OF ITEM 7 WAS CONTINUED IN THIS MORNING'S PLENARY (JANUARY 26) WITH ANGOLA NOW COMPLETELY DOMINATING. IT BEGAN WITH BRIEF COMMENTS BY HUNGARY AND CUBA SUGGESTING RESPECTIVELY THAT THE UNDP SHOULD HELP THE PEOPLES OF ANGOLA AND THAT THE UNDP OFFICE IN LUANDA SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED.

4. AS PART OF A VERY BRIEF STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 7, THE U.S. DELEGATION THEN EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA AGREED UPON IN MAY 1975, INDICATING THAT WE WOULD CONSIDER A CHANGE IN THESE ARRANGEMENTS INAPPROPRIATE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

5. THERE FOLLOWED BRIEF REMARKS BY THE CHINESE DELEGATE EMPHASIZING THAT THE PRC'S GOAL IS UNITY AMONG THE THREE ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE OAU. THIS GOAL WAS BEING DISRPUTED BY SUPER-POWER IMPERIALISM AND IN APARTICULAR THE SOCIALIST IMPERIALISM OF THE USSR.
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CHINA STRESSED THAT THE UNDP SHOULD TREAT ALL THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS EQUALLY, PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO NO SINGLE GROUP.

6. THE BELGIAN DELEGATE, SPEAKING FOR THE EC-9, ASSERTED THAT ANY ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY MODALITIES WHICH DID NOT IMPLY PREFERENCE FOR A PARTICULAR LIBERATION MOVEMENT. HE NOTED THAT ALL THREE ANGOLAN

MOVEMENTS HAVE OBSERVER STATUS AT THE UN.

7. THERE FOLLOWED A LONG AND HEATED EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA. THE SOVIET DELEGATE SAID THAT HE MUST CLARIFY HIS COUNTRY'S POSITION ON ANGOLA AND THEN SPOKE FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES FROM A PREPARED TEXT. HE CONTENDED THAT THERE IS NOW A HARSH WAR BETWEEN THE YOUNG REPUBLIC AND THE FORCES OF IMPERIALISM, WITH THE LATTER ATTEMPTING TO STRANGLE IN THE CRADLE A NEW SOVEREIGN STATE. THE SOVIET UNION SEEKS NOTHING IN ANGOLA EXCEPT TO ASSIST NEWLY INDEPENDENT PEOPLES AND TO OPPOSE IMPERIALISM; THE ACCUSATION OF A SOVIET DESIRE FOR A MILITARY BASE IN ANGOLA IS A BASELESS CHARGE; DETENTE CANNOT MEAN FREEDOM OF ACTION FOR THE AGGRESSORS. IN CLOSING HE STATED THAT UNDP ASSISTANCE MUST BE GRANTED TO THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA AND NOT TO "SEPARATIST" MOVEMENTS.

8. CHINA REITERATED IN REPLY THAT THE DIVISIONS AND CIVIL WAR IN ANGOLA ARE THE RESULT OF RIVALRY BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS, BUT PARTICULARLY THE FRENZIED EFFORTS OF SOVIET SOCIALIST IMPERIALISM. BY ITS INTERVENTION THE USSR HAD PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE OTHER SUPERPOWER AND RACIST SOUTH AFRICA TO BE INVOLVED. THE PRC REPRESENTATIVE ATTRIBUTED SINISTER MOTIVES TO THE SOVIET AGGRESSION, MENTIONING THE STRATEGIC POSITION OF ANGOLA IN RELATION TO THE SOUTH ATLANTIC SEA LANES, ANGOLA'S RICH NATURAL RESOURCES, AND THE SHATTERING OF AFRICAN UNITY FLOWING FROM THE SPLIT AMONG THE ANGOLA LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. HE SAID THAT THE PRC HAD GIVEN ASSISTANCE TO ALL THREE MOVEMENTS AND THAT UNITY AND HARMONY AMONG THEM WAS STILL THE APPROPRIATE GOAL.

9. AT THIS POINT THE CUBAN PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
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INTERVENED TO REQUEST THAT DELEGATIONS STAY CLOSER TO THE SUBJECT OF THE AGENDA ITEM. THEREAFTER THE CUBAN DELEGATE REFERRED BRIEFLY TO HIS COUNTRY'S "SELFLESS" AND GENEROUS SUPPORT TO ANGOLA FOLLOWING A LEGITIMATE REQUEST BY THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. THE SOVIET DELEGATE SAID THAT HE RESERVED THE RIGHT POSSIBLY TO MAKE FURTHER REMARKS IN RESPONSE TO THE PRC STATEMENT.

10. UNDP'S ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR (AFRICA) DOO KINGUE, IN SUMMING UP THE DISCUSSION ON ITEM 7, CHOSE TO IGNORE THE ANGOLAN ISSUE ENTIRELY. PRIVATELY HE HAS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT, SINCE ANGOLA IS NOW FREE, IT IS INAPPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS IT UNDER THE ITEM CONCERNED WITH COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES.

11. IN CLOSING AGENDA ITEM 7, THE PRESIDENT URGED CONSULTATION AMONG DELEGATIONS AND CONTACT WITH MR. DOO KINGUE IN PREPARATION OF A DRAFT COUNCIL "DECISION."

12. THE DRAFT DECISION ON THIS AGENDA ITEM WILL FOLLOW IN SEPTEL.

13. COMMENT: AFTER CHECKING INFORMALLY WITH UNDP ADMINISTRATION, US DELEGATION SPOKE EARLY IN THE JANUARY 26 DEBATE. THIS ENABLED US TO PUT CLEARLY ON RECORD OUR POSITION ON UNDP ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA WITHOUT THE NEED TO GET IN THE MIDDLE OF THE POLEMICS EXCHANGED BY THE SOVIETS AND THE CHINESE.
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